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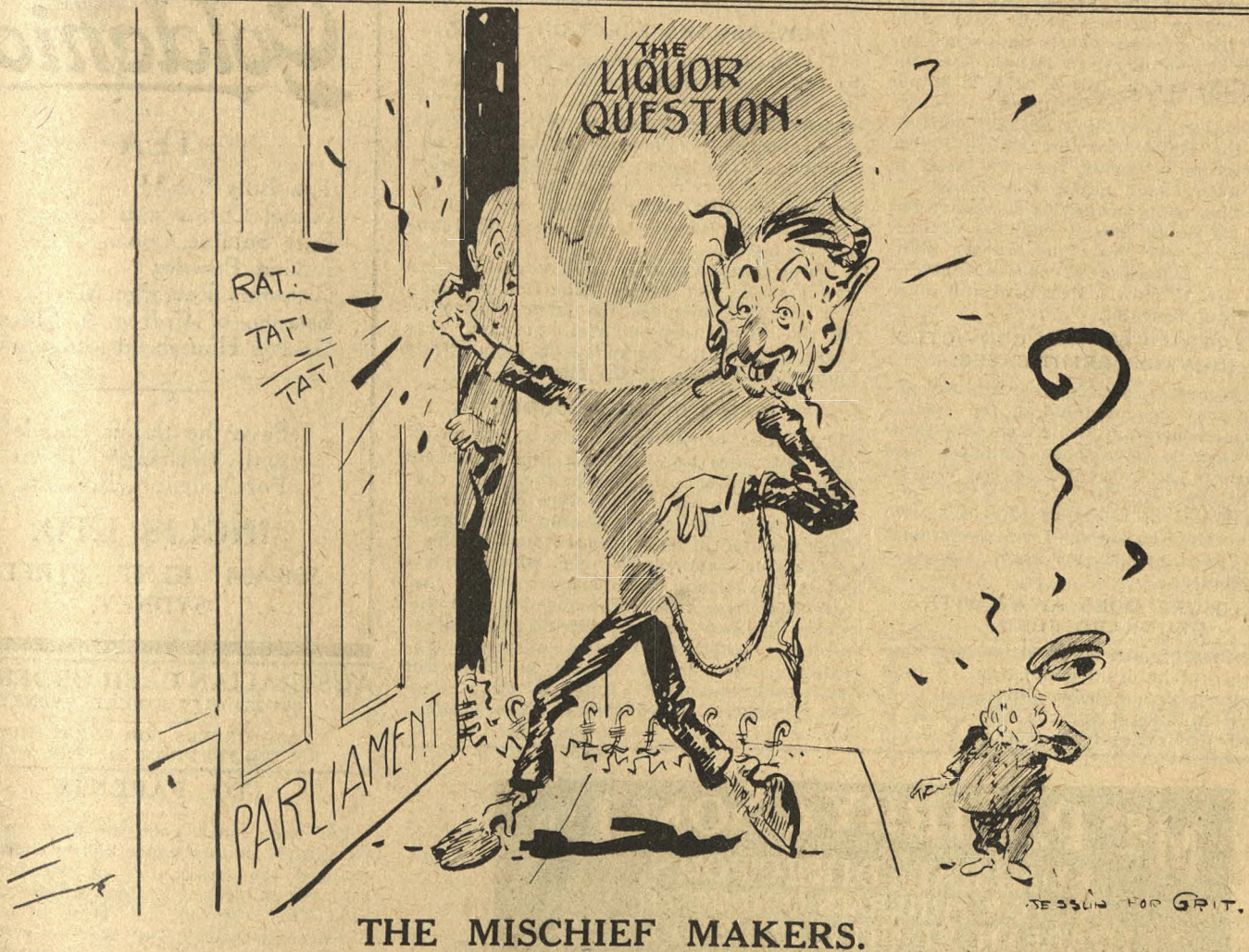
Grit.

A JOURNAL OF NATIONAL EFFICIENCY AND PROHIBITION

VOL. XVIII. No. 40. Twopence.

SYDNEY, DECEMBER 18, 1924.

Registered at the General Post Office, Sydney, or transmission by post as a newspaper.



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HOW PROHIBITION WORKS.

COMMENTS FROM DAILY PRESS.

BOTTLE INDUSTRY AIDED BY DRY LAW.

Prohibition has benefited instead of harmed the glass bottle industry, in the opinion of delegates to the fall meeting of the Glass Container Association of America, held in the Marlborough Blenheim Hotel in Atlantic City.

When the dry law first went into effect, it was said, the bottle manufacturers were apprehensive lest that portion of their business would suffer greatly. The rapid multiplication of non-alcoholic drinks, however, not only offset the loss experienced but established a much larger demand for bottles of every size.—News item, "Christian Science Monitor," November 7, 1924.

HOTEL TOURAINE SHOWS BIG INCREASE IN PROFITS.

"The Hotel Touraine added a new building, which was opened in January of this year, containing thirty-three rooms with private bath. Our books show an increase of over 172 per cent. for the first six months of 1924 over the entire year of 1918.

"The preceding five years, 1914-1918, inclusive, show an average yearly gain of 14 per cent. The average yearly gain since the Eighteenth Amendment, or rather since the closing of the bar on July 1, 1919, is 32 per cent.

"It cannot be possible that the management of the Hotel Touraine stands in the unique position of being the only hotel in America where such gains were made.

"Our coffee shop, occupying a former bar and grill, is doing now a business of over 100,000 dollars per year, and we are planning for an extension of this activity."—Mr. John Mc. F. Howie, President and Manager of Hotel Touraine.

JAIL TERMS AWAIT ANY CONVICTED IN WINE PERMIT CASES:

Jail sentences—not fines—await defendants who may be convicted in the "sacramental wine conspiracy," in which fifty-three persons already have been indicted, said Judge George A. Carpenter in the Federal Court, Chicago.

"The practice of releasing offenders with fines is obsolete so far as I am concerned," the Court declared.—News item, "Christian Science Monitor."

BALTIMORE DOES AWAY WITH DRUNKARD FUND.

Baltimore will make no provision next year for the care of habitual drunkards. A fund for this purpose has been eliminated from the municipal budget for the first time.

The board of estimate feels that it would

not be good advertising to let the world know that Baltimore has habitual drunkards and that the city must take care of them, despite Prohibition. Besides, it has no habitual drunkards to speak of any more.

In pre-Volstead days the city made good-sized appropriations for the care of men and women who found it impossible to keep sober. The money was spent under the direction of the supervisor of city charities or other agencies in attempting cures.

The appropriation dwindled till it reached 300 dollars last year. A similar fund was provided for in the budget of 1924.—News item, "Columbus Dispatch."

HEAVY SENTENCES FOR NARCOTIC CASES.

The October term of the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota has disposed of several narcotic cases by trial and pleas of guilty, resulting in 42 years' prison sentences and 10,000 dollars fines.—Excerpt of letter to Col. L. G. Nutt, from Narcotic Agent in Charge, H. H. Wouters.

FEW DRUNKS ELECTION NIGHT.

The Prohibition amendment was observed by the throngs who turned out in all parts of the city to participate in the election demonstrations, according to police officials, who report only 26 arrests for drunkenness.

This was the lowest number of arrests for intoxication ever recorded on the night of the national election, police officials say, and the crowd on the streets were orderly throughout the night.

There was virtually no carousing and rowdiness on the streets. The first precinct, the one that includes the principal section of the down-town district, reported only three intoxicated persons—all men.—News item, "Washington (D.C.) Herald."

GAINS CITED BY JUDGE.

"At first convictions under the Prohibition law were few. After a time sentiment appeared either to change or the jurors concluded that, even if they were out of sympathy with the law, it should be enforced. This resulted in more frequent convictions.

"This is particularly true where Judges adopt an attitude of imposing fines for first offences upon those who plead guilty and whose offence does not involve selling to minors, marketing poisonous liquors or maintaining objectionable resorts in connection with their business."—Judge Edwin L. Garvin, Brooklyn, in "Christian Science Monitor."

"THE DAWNING OF THAT DAY."

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For some time past we have inserted a paragraph in this paper asking if you have realised the importance of sex instruction for your children in a clean wholesome manner. The response has been to a certain extent satisfactory, but we feel we have a sacred duty to try and reach thousands of other parents for the sake of the rising generation. You can by sending 1/- in stamps or P.N. obtain a 24 page instructive Report for 1923/24 and eight more booklets to help parents, boys, girls, youths and maidens.

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IS THERE AN ENGLISH DRINK PROBLEM?

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF PRESENT-DAY FACTS.

(From "The Observer," June 15, 1924.)

One of the common objections made to proposals for temperance legislation is that there is no longer a drink problem in this country. "There is no reason to apprehend," says Professor Starling in his recent book, "that the growth of control and temperance which has been continuous during the last generation will now come to an end—rather may we expect it to proceed at an accelerating pace."

Social students gladly recognise that there has been a marked reduction in the consumption of alcoholic liquors during the past decade, and also in the evils attendant on such consumption. They are, however, not convinced that such change has been wholly or mainly due to the causes assigned by Professor Starling, or that the rate of progress already secured is likely to be maintained, much less accelerated.

They believe that the drink evil is still, to quote the Earl of Balfour's famous phrase (1908), "an ever-present tragedy," and they see no reason to doubt that even to-day if the pre-war conditions of trade, liquor taxation and hours of sale prevailed, much if not all of the alleged improvement in the drinking habits of the nation might disappear. They are confirmed in this view by the fact that, even with wide-spread unemployment and the high price of liquor, the partial relaxation of the war-time restrictions since 1918 has led to a marked increase in consumption and drunkenness, as the following figures for England and Wales show:

	1918.		1920.		1922	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Convictions for drunkenness—	21,853	7,222	80,517	15,246	63,253	13,094
Deaths from alcoholism—	222	74	451	140	335	136
Deaths from cirrhosis of liver—	1,092	579	1,164	562	1,271	635
Absolute alcohol mill. galls (U.K.)—	37.0		69.5		53.0	

A TREMENDOUS REALITY.

As the facts stand, there is a tremendous liquor problem. There were, in 1922, 84,257 drunkenness cases brought before our courts in England and Wales. That number probably does not represent one-fourth of the cases of public drunkenness, to say nothing of private intoxication, and round every one of the persons charged as intoxicated was a group of persons who suffered by their excess. The 2377 deaths from alcoholism and cirrhosis of the liver recorded for 1922 admittedly do not represent one-fifth of the deaths which were due, directly or indirectly, to alcohol, including deaths from accident or violence. Our infantile mortality has, happily, declined considerably during recent years, but every social worker and elementary school teacher knows only too well that there are thousands of infant and young child lives sacrificed every year or being spoiled

because, owing to the alcoholic habits of the parents, the children are not receiving the care to which they are entitled. It is a serious portent that since 1918 the convictions for drunkenness among women have nearly doubled, and that the Mother Country, alone among English-speaking peoples, affords the daily spectacle of scores of thousands of her wives and mothers drinking in our public drink-shops. It is not without grim significance for the children that while £93,000,000 was spent on milk in Great Britain in 1923, no less than £193,000,000 was spent on beer, the milk consumed being 800,000,000 gallons, or two-fifths of a pint per head per day, as compared with 930,000,000 gallons of beer. Nor must it be forgotten that last year the expenditure, per non-abstaining family, on drink, was, for Great Britain, not less than £35 per family even in these days of bad trade and unemployment.

SIGNIFICANT ADMISSIONS.

These facts are not challenged by the trade. Mr. V. C. Redwood, the Director of the Fellowship of Freedom and Reform, in 1922 almost made it a boast that there were only three per 100 of the people of England and Wales who were drunkards. The rate seems small, but it represented in 1922 no fewer than 113,000 persons, nearly equal to the adult population of Cardiff, and, realising the gravity of the admission, he has since reduced the figure. Nor are the evils confined to those which can be represented in statistics. Sir James Crichton-Browne, M.D., F.R.S., in an article on "What We Owe to Alcohol," published by the True Temperance Association in 1921, wrote these frankly impressive words:

"The misdeeds of alcohol are conspicuous enough. It is obviously responsible alone or in combination with other malign agencies for much poverty, misery and sorrow, for matrimonial wreckage and the neglect, starvation and ill-usage of children, for dirt and disease of body and mind, for crime and disorder, for self-contempt and suicide. We are all keenly alive to the wretchedness and havoc caused by it, and when actually witnessing some of its pitiable effects are inclined to condemn it utterly, and wish that it had never been born."

These words lose none of their significance when they come from a strenuous defender of the liquor trade, who proceeds:

"For reasonable men that is a mere passing spasm of irrationality."

THE INDUSTRIAL BEARINGS.

Nor must the relation of the drink problem to industry and commerce be overlooked. It is now admitted by all leading physiologists that precise and delicate operations of body and mind are interfered with by even the moderate consumption of alcoholic liquors, and it is indisputable that the large

consumption of liquor by our people interferes with industrial efficiency to a really appreciable extent. The Americans consider that they have gained at least 10 per cent. in efficiency by the elimination of alcoholic liquors, and if this be true, the following passage from the speech of the Right Hon. L. S. Amery, M.P., in the "Capitalist System" debate of July 16, 1923, becomes very significant:

"The essential fact in production is that between success and failure a very narrow margin of efficiency makes all the difference. . . . That is true in the most self-contained country like this which lives not merely by production in its own area, but has to fight and trade for its living throughout the world and to support in this narrow island a population twice as great as its area justifies."

The report of the Special Committee of the Labor Party, appointed to consider the relation of Labor and the liquor trade, which was recently published, confirms in general terms the statements already made, saying:

"If the labor and capital and the enterprise and managerial ability now put into the drink traffic could be diverted to the production of something of more durable utility to the community, it cannot be doubted that both the wealth and the well-being of the nation would be greatly increased. We think that the conclusion cannot be escaped, that whatever loss of pleasure might be involved in a total abandonment of the consumption of alcoholic beverages, there would be little or no loss of health or efficiency; and, on the other hand, a vast, though incalculable, gain in health and strength, in physical and mental capacity, and especially—taking into account the improved social conditions obtainable from the amount now spent in drink—in both quantitative and qualitative efficiency."

And the report sums up its survey with the words:

"Our failure as a nation to achieve these improvements must be counted as part of the public cost of the drink traffic."

The question at the head of this article may be fittingly answered in the words of the "Brewers' Gazette," in 1920:

"Restrictions, Prohibition, State Control, Pussyfoot—all would go by the board if only there were no cause"—and the black type is that of the "Gazette."

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FIELD DAY APPOINTMENTS.

SUNDAY, December 21st.

- 11 a.m., Mascot Methodist Church.
 3 p.m., Men's Meeting, Methodist Church, Mascot.
 7 p.m., Botany Methodist Church.
 —Mr. H. C. Stitt.
 7.15 p.m., Botany Anglican Church (St. Matthew's).
 —Mr. C. E. Still.
 7 p.m., Balmain (Rozelle) Baptist Church.
 —Mr. Wm. Bain.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

REV. HENRY WORRALL.

The itinerary of public meetings to be addressed by the Australian Prohibition Council's lecturer during the month of January will be as follows:

- Monday, January 5.—Wentworth Falls, School of Arts.
 Tuesday, January 6.—Lawson, Literary Institute.
 Wednesday, January 7.—Woodford, Methodist School Hall.
 Thursday, January 8.—Springwood, Picture Theatre.
 Saturday, January 10.—Hazelbrook, Methodist School Hall.
 Monday, January 12.—Katoomba, Town Hall.
 Tuesday, January 13.—Blackheath, Arcadia Picture Theatre.
 Wednesday, January 14.—Mount Victoria, Public Hall.
 Thursday, January 15.—Leura, St. Alban's Anglican Hall.

ALLIANCE NEWS AND NOTES.

(By H. C. STITT).

We thank the numerous friends who kindly enquired after the health of the late Ex-Senator David Watson during his critical and mortal illness. The unanimous expression of sorrow was very earnest. We were all greatly shocked and distressed at the passing of our esteemed co-worker. The Prohibition Movement has lost one of its best champions and most willing workers. A true friend of the people, and one of God's noblemen. The writer journeyed to Newcastle to represent the Alliance at the funeral. The large number who marched in that solemn procession was a fine testimony to the love and esteem in which David Watson, Humanist, Prohibitionist, and Christian, was held in the community.

Last Sunday the Alliance staff speakers conducted services at Hornsby Anglican and Methodist Churches, Wilberforce Anglican Church, and Pymble Methodist Church. Although the day was decidedly wet and unfavorable fair attendances were reported, and altogether very enjoyable fellowship with the various churches obtained.

We have exceedingly much pleasure in

complimenting Miss Hyde (Bond's) on her splendid win in the Queen Competition at the Great White Fair. It was a well-earned victory. Our Staff Queen, Miss Beryl Miles, was runner-up, and whilst she did not succeed to the throne, was nevertheless next in the order of succession.

The Alliance has decided to extend the operations of its educational work, and will endeavor to commence the New Year with extra lecturers on the staff.

We compliment the people of Queensland on their opportunity by the operations of the Local Option clauses of ridding their State of the liquor "leech." Twenty-six centres will be contested next May. This will have a tremendous influence on our State elections, which follow a month later. N.S.W. cannot afford to stand out of that strategic war, which will as sure as night follows day establish the first milestone on the road to Australian National Prohibition. The Local Option clauses are not operative in N.S.W. at present, this kernel having been extracted, leaving us the shell.

It is pleasing to report the inauguration of another new Branch, this time at Campbelltown. The writer visited that very pretty and healthy town during the week. The victory pledge has been taken up heartily. The Rev. E. Wilkinson was appointed Secretary, and Rev. R. B. Garner President, both real live wires and well fortified by an enthusiastic committee.

Two interesting items of news appeared in one of Sydney's papers last Sunday. Statistics were quoted showing 77,094 convictions for "drunkenness" for the year in England and Wales. The other article was under the caption of "England's Mad Roll," revealing an increase in insanity of notified cases for the year, amounting to 4055 patients, the highest increase ever recorded. Statistics on drunkenness and insanity are allied, because when drunkenness increases it naturally follows that insanity increases in sympathetic proportion. So also does the other twin relative crime. The official reports endeavor to apologise for this appalling state of affairs on the grounds of unemployment. Wonderful logic to argue that inability to find employment is the cause of drunkenness.

As the result of our protest against serving wine at the Milson's Point railway station, and incidentally suggesting that tea and coffee might be made available, this latter has been decided upon. The wine bar was neither requested nor required. Nevertheless it is to remain. Following is a copy of letter received from the Railway Department:

"Dear Sir,—With reference to your letter of the 3rd instant, protesting against the opening of a wine bar at the railway sta-

tion at Milson's Point, I beg to inform you that it is the general practice of the Commissioners to provide such accommodation where it is considered to be necessary in the interests of railway travellers.

"At the old Milson's Point station no wine was provided at the railway refreshment room in view of the fact that there had been for many years a wine shop in premises owned by the Sydney Ferries, Ltd., and such facilities met all current railway requirements.

"At the new Milson's Point station (Lavender Bay) a completely new set of conditions had to be dealt with, whereby it was recognised that the Commissioners only were in a position to satisfactorily cater for a convenience of this character, and same was arranged accordingly.

"I may add that arrangements are in hand in regard to the provision of the necessary accommodation for the supply of tea and other refreshments at an early date.

"Yours faithfully,

"(Sgd.) W. J. MORRIS,

"Secretary."

The decision of the Mayor of Albury, Alderman H. G. Davis, as published in the press, that in accordance with his principles, strong drink would not be dispensed at any function at which liquid refreshments were provided in the Mayor's name, is one which will earn for the Mayor the approval and commendation of all right-thinking people throughout the State.

The reply of the Postmaster-General to our protest against the use of the Subscribers' Telephone Directory for the purpose of creating revenue from booze advertisements conveys the impression that the Postmaster-General considers that decent people's homes may be used as hoardings for grog displays. The following letter received from the Postal Department, Melbourne, is interesting:

"Dear Sir,—I am sorry to learn from your letter of the 26th November that the Executive of the N.S.W. Alliance considers that certain advertisements in the telephone directories may offend the feelings of the community. The Department has adopted the practice in regard to advertising which is freely followed by all commercial institutions, and certain space has been let under contract for advertising purposes. Special consideration was given to the exclusion of advertisements of the nature referred to in your letter, but it did not appear practicable to place an embargo on any Australian firms who were engaged in the prosecution of a legal enterprise.

"Yours faithfully,

"(Sgd.) W. F. GIBSON."

"GRIT" SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Received to 12/12/24, and where not mentioned the amount received is 10/-: Mr. Buesnel, £1, 30/5/26; E. H. Crabb, £1, 30/9/25; W. Cripp, Jnr., 30/6/25; Miss Moor (Educat.), W. Muscio, £2/7/-, 12/11/25; P. A. Craw, 16/5/25; John E. Ede, 12/6, 16/8/25; C. Munro, £1/15/-, 30/1/25; W. McMurtrie, 7/2, 18/4/25; Mrs. Wenham, 5/-, 30/6/25.

The following are paid to 30/12/24: W. G. Butterworth, Rev. G. E. Johnson, F. C. Moore, C. A. Lean 7/-, Albert Johnson, W. E. Wilson, A. R. Wilson, Miss E. A. Pitts £1/3/-.

The following are paid to 30/12/25: D. R. Rogers £1, Mrs. Ford, Mrs. Watts 16/8, Mrs. Morris £1, Mrs. Sly £1, Mrs. Crane, W. Cox £1, J. W. Butterick £1/14/6, Mrs. W. White £1, A. MacFarlane 11/6.

DAVID WATSON.

POLITICIAN—ORATOR—PROHIBITIONIST—CHRISTIAN GENTLEMAN.

By ROBERT B. S. HAMMOND.

David Watson, ex-Australian Senator, is known from one end of New South Wales to the other.

His rugged Scotch accent has charmed a thousand audiences. In the bush township and the cities he has won a way to the front rank of publicists.

David Watson may rightly claim to be a child of the people. His father, a Scottish miner, began work at the age of seven years. Away back in those days when little children were wantonly sacrificed to the god of industry, this little boy was one of thousands who were robbed of childhood's joys by the relentless monster, Greed. Small wonder that at last when his father died (his death was due to the dreaded miners' phthisis) he should undertake the cause of the worker. To-day when he is pleading the cause of the underdog, it is easy to fancy you are listening to the protest born in the mind of the little seven-year-old boy, who was driven by a cruel system to shoulder life's burdens when he should have been in a nursery.

EARLY DAYS.

David Watson came to this country when only a boy, and not long after his arrival, at 7 years of age, was earning his living in the coal pits of the Newcastle district. For 25 years he followed the career of a miner, and when he laid down the pick for the pen it was at the behest of 10,000 of his fellow-workmen, who called upon him to become their leader at a most critical period in their history. His leadership of the miners was marked by his sane and, indeed, statesman-like handling of the problems which confronted him. In times of stress and excitement when men were tempted to do the unwise thing, David Watson kept a steady and firm grasp of the situation, and under his leadership the miners of his district became among the best organised unionists in Australia.

PARLIAMENT.

From being President of the Miners' Federation he became a Senator in the Federal Parliament. It is well known and often remarked that Parliamentary experience spoils men. Such cannot be said of David Watson. He took into Parliament with him a native honesty of purpose, and his years of experience in the Senate did not lessen his enthusiasm for those things which had formed so large a part of his life before he became a Parliamentarian.

SACRIFICED TO PRINCIPLE.

When Dave Watson lost his seat in the Senate it was due to his sturdy refusal to back down on his Prohibition principles.

He was "marked" politically because he had clashed with the Hon. W. M. Hughes, who has always shown himself ruthless to either friend or foe who crossed his wishes or his whims. He was "marked" by the Liquor Trade because of his fearless advocacy of Prohibition.

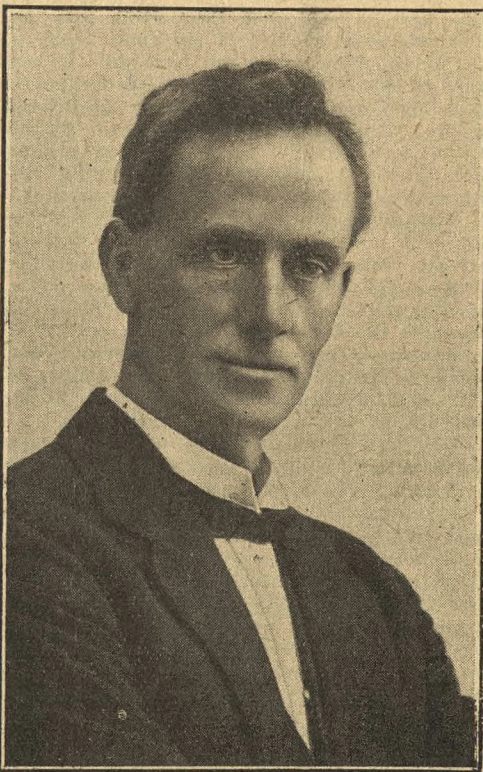
It is to be regretted that many Christian Prohibitionists failed to politically support Dave Watson because they disliked his politics, and their dislike of a Labor man outweighed their love for a fellow Christian Prohibitionist. The one beautiful thing about it was that it never soured Dave; he ever remained the same warm-hearted, optimistic, kindly, generous man.

HIS WORK WITH THE ALLIANCE.

When the New South Wales Alliance decided to secure the services of David Watson for work among industrialists, they chose a man who is fitted for such a position as few other men were. He could speak to the worker in the language which is understood by workers, for he himself has ever in the very best sense been a workman. Further, he knew from experience all there is to know of the problems which are the daily portion of every worker's life.

I will always consider that one of my biggest contributions to the Prohibition cause was my persuading this truly good and splendid man to join our forces.

On Sundays he visited different churches, and proclaimed his message, and during the



THE LATE DAVID WATSON.

week-days he visited the factories and workshops in and around the city of Sydney, and to his fellow-workers told the truth about alcohol, and pointed them to the better way of Prohibition.

Always cheerful, he added a note of deep persuasion to his logic, and never failed to command the respect and attention of those who formed his audience.

We loved him in the office, and he was like a canary singing away at his work and creating an atmosphere of niceness all the time.

LABOR'S TRIBUTE.

The Newcastle correspondent to the "Labor Daily" telegraphed to his paper:

"He will be remembered by thousands of miners in this district for his great work," said Mr. Amram Lewis, Treasurer of the Northern Miners, referring to the late ex-Senator Watson to-day. "A more earnest

and devoted Trades Unionist did not exist in the Movement."

Mr. Watson will always be remembered by the Northern District because of the solid work he did with other members of the Executive in bringing about the abolition of the afternoon shift in the mines.

During that eventful and critical period of history of northern mining, Mr. Watson showed great qualities. He was possessed of great tact, not only in approaching the Proprietors' Association, but also in his attitude against the law when he and others were fined £4000, which, however, was never paid.

On that memorable occasion, in 1913, although it meant that the law had to be resisted, he showed that when he had made up his mind on a course that he deemed to be right nothing would make him swerve from it.

It can safely be said that he occupied the position of president at one of the most critical periods in the history of mining, because the contest for the abolition of the afternoon shift was the means of testing members of the Northern District Miners' Federation more than any other industrial trouble either before or since.

HIS UNTIRING ENERGY.

At that time miners then working in the north contributed 10 per cent. of their earnings for no fewer than ten months for the sake of supporting the colliers who were fighting for the abolition of the afternoon shift. That was accomplished, and it redounds to the credit of Mr. Watson, who was largely instrumental in bringing about the very desirable alteration.

A PERSONAL TRIBUTE.

When I advised Dave to see Dr. Richard Arthur and accept his advice, we both knew it was taking the right course. Dr. Arthur urged immediate action. Dr. Harris, the most famous surgeon in Australia for the ailment from which David suffered, gladly agreed to operate, and on Friday, November 28, he entered the Lewisham Hospital.

Dr. Harris operated on Monday, December 1, and all seemed well. On the 3rd we became anxious, but found comfort in the prayers of the great gathering at the Sydney Town Hall.

I saw him on Thursday morning, and while he was in great pain I prayed with him. He stroked my face, and was as ever most of all concerned for others.

The Great White Fair opened that day and I was deeply involved in it, but all day my mind dwelt on this brave, good, cheerful man.

At 6.30 on Thursday, December 5, he heard the call, and quietly responded, falling asleep as it were in the sure and certain hope of a glorious resurrection.

A loyal friend, a cheerful worker and enduring child of God, he has left behind many hearts that mourn him but who find comfort in the remembrance of his simple faith and splendid life, and who are proud to have been the friends of a man who always stood four-square and ever did more than his share.

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THE FATE OF SIMPSON.

UGHT CAPITAL PUNISHMENT TO SUBSIST?

LORD MAYOR GILPIN DEFEATED BY LIQUOR FORCES.

New Wine Bars Opened.—Fuller & Co., Publicans.—Fresh Crop of Divorces Due to Drink.—Drunken Brawl Ends Fatally.—Mob Fight at Redfern.—Drunks Assault Constable.

EXECUTION OF SIMPSON.

The Appin tragedy reached its natural conclusion—natural, that is, as our law stands at present—when Simpson was hung last week for the murder of Guy Clift. Poor Simpson suffered swift retribution for his crime. Poor Simpson? Yes, advisedly. Nobody who knows the fact about this man's tragic history can help feeling sympathy for him. He was not a bad man. He was quite a decent chap who had all sorts of good characteristics, but who, like so many other people with potentialities for good, became the victim of his own folly and was led to do in a moment of frenzy what he never could have brought himself to do in his sober senses. He was a murderer. He admitted it and has paid the full penalty for his crime. But what he did was done under the influence of drink, and he had no clear recollection of the circumstances of that terrible moment when he sealed his own fate in the blood of a friend. We mention his case here because it embodies an experience and a lesson which all the arguments of the opponents of Prohibition do not touch. What, indeed, becomes of the argument about the liberty of the subject when we have before us the undeniable proof that what may seem in one aspect to infringe one man's liberty of action may in another preserve others from the fate which overtook Simpson? Simpson was hung because of booze. But for drink he would be alive to-day. What logic can confute that, or show that the worst of crime is not attributable to alcohol?

PROBLEM OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

The execution of Simpson raises once again the whole issue of capital punishment. Frankly, we do not think this man ought to have been hung. We do not think he was responsible for what he did. He was fuddled with drink at the time, and there is not a shadow of a doubt that he was not sane from a commonsense point of view. In law, of course, responsibility is a peculiar thing and sanity is equally peculiar. It may be that, from the legal point of view, Simpson was aware of the nature and quality of his act, and if so he was legally responsible. So long as capital punishment stands part of the law of the land, the Executive Council was, no doubt, within its rights in deciding that the law should take its course. But we cannot help feeling that there was something wrong—something not in harmony with the public conscience—in the execution of Simpson. The truth is that capital punishment is a survival of the old *lex talionis*—"an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth"—and it may be doubted whether it ought to remain a sanction of any modern criminal code. Brutality of punishment is not a deterrent to crime. Most criminologists are agreed on that point. Brutality breeds brutality and violence. In those countries where capital punishment has been abolished there is less violent crime than in those where it still survives. There are, indeed, crimes so revolting that our indignation seem to counsel swift and merciless revenge, but passions of that sort ought not to determine our policy of penal retribution. Practically all criminals are mental defectives, and as such they should be dealt with.

LORD MAYOR GILPIN.

We regret the defeat of Lord Mayor Gilpin at the recent municipal elections, not merely because we can ill afford to lose such men from the civic administration at the present time, but because undoubtedly his courage in proclaiming his convictions on the liquor question helped to bring about the opposition to his reelection. Those who attended the great Victory Pledge demonstration at the Town Hall in May last will remember how Alderman Gilpin publicly proclaimed his belief in Prohibition and how he told his vast audience that he had been warned that should he do so he would be opposed by the liquor forces at the next elections. That did not deter him, and he said that Prohibition was the greatest moral victory of our time. And so the liquor crowd have put him out. It has come to this: that freedom of speech, allowed to be one of the cherished rights of British people within the limits prescribed by the law of libel, can yet be penalised by groups of interests whom it offends. Alderman Gilpin said nothing for which he could be called to account in the courts of justice, but he did defy the brewers, and so they wreaked private vengeance on him and put out of municipal life one of the most honorable, upright and courageous men who has ever occupied the position of Lord Mayor. That is another "debt of gratitude" which the people of Sydney owe to the liquor gang who extract £12,000,000 annually from their pockets.

NEW WINE BARS.

Replying in Parliament the other day to Mr. Albert Lane, the Minister for Justice said that during the past two years the Licensing Court in the metropolitan area has granted permission for 21 extra bars in existing licensed premises and 105 extensions and alterations in the same area. Nine wine licenses have been converted from grocers selling by the bottle to wine bars selling by the glass. So that, to this extent, facilities for drinking have been increased. We know, of course, that the Licenses Reduction Board has cancelled a large number of licenses and awarded large sums by way of compensation, but how effective this has been is proved by the fact that the consumption of wine has increased instead of diminishing. A number of small wine bars are closed up, and then a new and palatial one is opened to mop up all their trade, and this is termed reduction. The whole reduction business is a disgraceful farce—almost as disgraceful as the whole record of this Government on the liquor question. There is the fact which neither Mr. Ley nor his apologist can evade or explain away: that there is more drinking to-day than ever before, and that the obnoxious wine bar trade increases instead of diminishing.

FULLER & CO., PUBLICANS.

It is, of course, unreasonable to expect a straightforward policy on the liquor question from this Government, for are they not in the booze business themselves? The Government are themselves publicans. They sell liquor in railway bars and restaurants, and derive a good, fat profit from doing so. Indeed, at some stations it would appear to be easier to get a glass of grog than a cup

of tea. At the monthly meeting of the Women's Christian Temperance Union the other day it was decided to approach the Railway Commissioners on what was rightly described as "the scandalous state of affairs" which obtains in the refreshment rooms at the railway station at Milson's Point. One speaker complained that she asked for a cup of tea, but was told that tea was not available, but she could have a glass of wine. Exception also was taken to the liquor advertisement on the corner and inside the new telephone directory. A resolution will be sent to the Government on this matter "in the interests of young people in the homes who are constantly handling the directory."

MORE DIVORCE CASES.

The Divorce Court continues to be overloaded with petitions for the dissolution of marriages, and in many of these the drunken habits of one of the parties are alleged as the grounds of petition. The other day Mr. Justice Ralston refused to believe George Henry Riley, who asked for an order for the restitution of conjugal rights against his wife, who charged her husband with cruelty and said that when he was drunk (a frequent occurrence), he was a beastly creature, and when he came home in that state his little daughter shivered with fear of him. Since her marriage in January, 1920, petitioner had rendered her life unhappy by his cruel drunken habits. Riley said he wanted his wife to return, and he had no intention of obtaining a divorce, but his Honor thought otherwise, and dismissed the petition.

GROSS UNMITIGATED CRUELTY.

Two other cases of gross unmitigated cruelty and brutality arising out of drunken habits occupied the attention of the Court last week, and in both cases a decree nisi was granted by the Judge. The first of these was heard by Mr. Justice Owen and the other by Mr. Justice Ralston. In the one, Mrs. Mary Theresa Finch said that her husband, Walter Clarence Finch, made a habit of spending his wages in drink, and then going home and beating her. He had thrashed her with a riding crop, and had felled her with the butt end of it. He constantly kicked and punched her.

Respondent, who appeared in custody, he having been convicted of breaking and entering, denied his wife's statements, but admitted that a prohibition order was made against him for drunkenness in 1920.

A story of similar domestic infelicity was narrated by Mrs. Alice White. On one occasion her husband had seized her by the neck while she was ill in bed, and, flourishing a razor, threatened to cut her throat. She ran away in the rain to her mother's house, and had not returned to her husband since. She asked for a divorce.

BRAWL ENDS FATALLY.

Drunken brawls are on the increase in certain quarters of the city, and reports of these incidents frequently appear in the newspapers. They usually occur during the week-end. The other day one had more serious consequences than usual, ending in the death of one of the participants. It seems that a quarrel occurred in Carlton Crescent, Summer Hill, as a result of which Stanley Gibson, of Liverpool-road, Ashfield, died in the Lewisham Hospital. Herbert Gerald Pritchley was detained by the police soon after the affray, and was charged with manslaughter. Gibson and several other men were mixed up in a dispute shortly after 6 o'clock, and Gibson was struck heavily on the jaw. He fell to the pavement, striking his head on the asphalt. He was unconscious when taken to the hospital, and died within fifteen minutes after admission. Gibson was about 30 years of age.

(Continued on page 10.)

EVERYBODY WANTS
Griffiths Bros.'
 PEKOE-FLAVORED
 TEA

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE DRUG EVIL IN THE UNITED STATES.

The Treasury Department of the United States has just issued an important Public Health Report (May 23, 1924), containing a special article on the "Extent and Trend of Drug Addiction in the United States," which is of much interest and no little importance in view of present-day controversies.

The report, after citing estimates ranging from 100,000 to 1,000,000, states that while an exact count of the addicts is impossible it is possible, by utilising all available information, "to delimit the number by certain maximum and minimum figures." We summarise here the result of the analysis and inquiries.

1. THE NUMBER BASED ON NARCOTIC SURVEYS AND CLINIC REPORTS.

The Survey's analysed are:

The "Tennessee Survey" of 1915 gave 5000 as the probable number in that State, and 215,000 in the U.S.A., with an addition of 25 per cent. for more thickly populated districts, making a total of 269,000.

The "Treasury Department Survey" of 1918, by questionnaires to physicians registered under the Narcotic Act, gave for 30.6 per cent. replying, 73,150 addicts, which on 100 per cent. basis would be 237,655 for the U.S.A.

The "Pennsylvania Survey", of 1922, after "industriously collecting" names and addresses of Pennsylvania addicts, secured less than 9000 names, and the Drug Control Bureau estimated that "there were not more than 20,000 habitual drug users"—for legitimate and improper uses—in the State, giving 242,000 for the U.S.A.

United States Army Findings.—Up to May, 1919, 72,323 men out of 3,500,000 were rejected for mental and nervous diseases, but only 3284 were drug addicts. The army rate would give 99,500 addicts, but "this rate, for obvious reasons, cannot be applied to the country as a whole."

Clinic Reports by Revenue Agents (1919-1923) gave 4123 addicts in thirty-four cities having a population of 4,182,952; on this basis there would be 104,300 in the U.S.A.

New York City Clinic, 1919-20, registered 7464 addicts, which would give 140,600 for the U.S.A.

After criticising these figures, the report says:

"The highest estimate based on any unrevised survey is 269,000, the lowest, exclusive of the Army Survey, is 104,300, . . . from what has been brought out relative to the surveys it would seem that for the period 1915 to 1922 that somewhat less than 215,000 is more nearly correct for the beginning, and about 110,000 the approximate number for the end of the period."

2. NUMBER BASED ON DOSAGE AND AVAILABLE SUPPLIES.

After examining the available evidence as to the average number of grains in a daily dose, the report "sets the average daily dose at six grains, an amount considerably smaller than that shown by the clinics." In discussing the quantity the report says:

"Another factor not to be lost sight of in influencing the relative size of the average dose is the effect which recently enacted laws have had in preventing innocent normal people from becoming addicted. Because of this factor, addiction is becoming more and more a vicious practice of unstable people, who, by their nature, have abnormal cravings which impel them to take much larger doses than those taken by the average normal person who so often fell a victim to narcotics some years ago. Normal people now either do not become addicted or are, as a rule, quickly cured, leaving as addicts an abnormal type with large appetite and little means for gratifying it."

The report then gives the figures for imports of opium and its alkaloids, and shows that for the period 1890-1899, the opium available could at the most have only supplied, on the six grain daily basis, 209,023 persons and that "at no time have there been

more than 246,000 opium addicts in the U.S.A."

3. STATEMENT OF PHYSICIANS INTERVIEWED.

The report says:

"We have interviewed physicians from all parts of the United States, and it is unusual to find one who has an addict among his patients."

In answer to a questionnaire sent out to the physicians in New York State by the special Deputy Police Commissioner in charge of the narcotic police division of New York City, out of 7559 replying (51.6 per cent. of the whole), only 5.2 per cent. reported they were treating addicts in 1922, namely 775 cases, "mostly old people or persons suffering from incurable diseases." In 1918 37 per cent. of physicians in New York State were treating 12,365 addicts.

Dealing with smuggling, it says:

"Just how much is smuggled no one knows, but an examination of the figures as to world production of opium indicates that if all the medicinal opium now produced in the world were smuggled into this country, it would not supply more than about 566,000 addicts, a number much smaller than many of the estimates which have been made of the number of addicts in this country alone."

The cocaine addicts, it says, could never have been more than approximately 18,300.

The report believes the extent of smuggling is over-estimated. In 1922 the seizures only amounted to 4447 lbs.; in 1923, to 542 lbs.

"All the evidence shows that there has been a still further reduction in the number of addicts since the surveys were made. This assertion is made with full knowledge that the number of addicts in our penal institutions has greatly increased in recent years. There is nothing in this to cause alarm. One of the recently enacted laws has made it a crime for unlicensed persons to have narcotics in their possession. This law is being rigidly enforced, and addicts, who formerly were unmolested, are now being sent to jail."

The report concludes (inter alia):

"The evidence seems to show that a maximum estimate for the number of addicts in the United States at the present time would be 150,000.

"The number of addicts has decreased steadily since 1900. Before this decrease set in there may have been 264,000 addicts in this country. The greater number of addicts in prison at present as compared with former years is due to the rigid enforcement of recently enacted laws and not to an increase in the prevalence of addiction. . . . From the trend which narcotic addiction in this country has taken in recent years as a result of the attention given the problem by the medical profession and law enforcement officers, it is believed that we may confidently look forward to the time, not many years distant, when the few remaining addicts will be persons taking opium because of an incurable disease and addicts of the psychopathic delinquent type, who spend a good part of their lives in prison."

These important facts will be very useful in answering "trade" lies.

AUSTRALIAN CASH ORDERS, Ltd

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CASH ORDERS FOR EVERYTHING.
 ICE CHESTS FROM 2/6 PER WEEK.

A Personal Chat with my readers

CHRISTMAS.

Many thousands "listen in" week by week to my rambling talk on this page, and to you all I want to send greetings, grateful remembrance and warm-hearted wishes.

I just wish that what you wish may be granted you.

Milton Frantz has written lines that mould my wishes:

I wish that I might sing a song
That cheers a struggling soul along
Life's narrow, hard and stony road,
And helps him bear his heavy load!
I wish that I might do a deed
That helps another in his need
And makes his star of hope shine clear—
Dispelling all his doubt and fear!
I wish that I might speak a word
That by some erring brother heard,
Would turn him from his evil ways,
And make him happy all his days!
I wish that I might always be
Unyielding in my loyalty
To truth and right and all things good,
Wherein the Master staunchly stood!

I would again suggest that your Christmas gifts should occupy more thought than most people give to them. There are Christian gifts, friendly gifts and obligation gifts. Sort yours out and make this a very thorough goodwill season.

These lines by Schuyler E. Sears are appropriate:

The legend comes to us from old Cathay,
Like fragrance of wildflowers in the spring,
That once upon his birthday sat their king
On throne all white and robed in white array,
And every subject on that happy day
A gift all pure and white was asked to bring.
The poor brought pigeons, rice, as offering.
The rich their pearls, white steeds and ivory.
"The king regards no gift of greater worth
Than other gift, so long as all be white."
So Christ, our blessed King, from you and me,
Upon this day in which He came to earth,
Doth gifts of love and purity invite,
And holy joy our recompense shall be.

THE UNANSWERABLE ARGUMENT FOR PROHIBITION.

A writer in an American business journal says: "Nearly 25 years ago we worked desk to desk in the little three-story brick 'Sun' office, corner of Park Row and Frankfort-street, with a live-wire news man. The 'boss' had brought him in from an up-state town because he liked his mail copy.

"Happy, keen and a great hustler, he made rapid strides. He had a warm sentimental side and we well recall his talk of his mother and sister and his frequent week-end trips to see them. He was a

gentleman in his dealings with associates. Newspaper work to him was a public service. He was essentially an idealist.

"Changing newspaper tides swept us apart and we had not seen or even heard of the man for more than 20 years—until last week.

"He came up through Frankfort-street and turned north toward the Bowery. Although his face was red and bloated, we recognised him instantly. His blue Irish eye signalled a friendly 'hello'—and then quickly turned aside. He shuffled on. We saw him pause for an instant as if to return to speak, but a hasty decision to the contrary drove him into the crowds at Brooklyn Bridge, and we saw him no more.

"He did not need to return to tell us his bitter story. Every line of his broken body proclaimed him a victim of booze. His shattered garments, sour with age and exposure and filthy contamination, marked him as just another 'bum' on Park Row.

"What demon is this which enters so fine a structure, eats away all that is good and then parades the hideous wreck!

"Thank God, civilised man has decided to banish it from the earth."

THE VALUE OF A FLOWER.

From time to time I have expressed my appreciation for flowers, and I have to say "Thank you" to some of my readers for the way they have sweetened my outlook with a few choice blooms from time to time.

Sir Harold Mackintosh, President-elect of the National S.S. Union, told an amusing story of his grandmother. She was a Sunday school teacher of a class of young ladies, and on one occasion, in her lesson, she pointed out to them the opportunities they had of brightening their own homes. Incidentally, she mentioned the placing of a few flowers in a vase upon the table, to greet father on his return home from work. The next week one of the girls cried out, "Oh, Mrs. Mackintosh, I tried your plan. I brightened up our home. I put a vase of flowers on the table." "And what did father say when he arrived home and saw the vase of flowers?" asked the teacher. "Oh, take that off and put some grub on!" replied the girl.

In spite of such a reception, that little girl would have been wise to stick to the flowers—so long as she had something more than flowers on the table.

Someone has said: "Sympathy without practical relief is like mustard without

GRIT

A JOURNAL OF
NATIONAL EFFICIENCY
AND PROHIBITION

"Grit, clear Grit."—A pure Americanism, standing for Pluck, or Energy, or Industry, or all three. References probably had to the sandstones used for grindstones—the more grit they contain the better they wear.

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Change of Address or non-delivery of the paper should be promptly reported to the Manager.

SYDNEY, THURSDAY, DEC. 18, 1924.

beef." Flowers alone may not be appreciated by a hungry man, but when his hunger is satisfied he will be sure to turn his attention to the flowers.

ARE YOU A FISH OR A HEN?

The philosopher, on being interrupted in his thoughts by the violent cackling of a hen that had just laid an egg, was led to express his appreciation of a kind Providence by which a fish, while laying a million eggs to a hen's one, does so in a perfectly quiet and ladylike manner.

It is said that when a hen cackles the question is: Has she been laying or is she lying?

Now folk sometimes do things and yell for notice; others do them and are so busy doing the next thing that they have no time for cackling.

The hen department in the world of service is fairly full, but there is lots of room for the fish variety of worker.

WHY NOT KILL THE SPIDER?

Why worry about improving the meshes of the legal nets which are set to catch the liquor vendors? Why not learn the lesson of the following story:

I know a man who in the weekly prayer meeting was always confessing the same sins. His prayer seldom varied. One day when he was praying he used this figure of speech: "O Lord, since we last gathered together the cobwebs have come between us and Thee. Clear away the cobwebs that we may again see Thy face." Then a brother called out, "O God, kill the spider!" You know very well that you may sweep cobwebs away, but if you leave spiders in the room you will have cobwebs again tomorrow morning. The best way to get rid of the cobwebs is to deal with the cause—to kill the spider.

The Editor

THE GREAT WHITE FAIR.

HOW WE TOOK £2412.

EVERYTHING FINE BUT THE WEATHER.

In last issue we had a progress report of the Fair written on the Friday. The Fair closed the following day, and in spite of rain, wind and storm it was the best day of the three.

The Great White Fair will be remembered by the Town Hall authorities for the following reasons:

1. The most beautifully decorated of any fair ever held there.
2. The happiest crowd giving the least trouble.
3. The "show" that ran successfully, without a gambling device or a questionable side show, was a fair to be proud of.

THE STALLS.

There were 27 stalls, involving 160 workers, and the results were as follows:

	£	s.	d.
Hat Stall, Mrs. John Fell	14	16	6
Women's Garments, Mrs. Bond ..	137	12	7
Palmolive, Mrs. White	13	2	11
"The Stall," Uncle B., Mrs. Mainwaring, Snr. and Jnr.	87	16	3
Side Shows, Miss Varley	7	17	4
Hoop La, Y.M.C.A.	9	17	6
Business Girls, Misses Andrews, Ascott and Harbutt	76	13	5
Linen Towels, Mrs. W. J. White ..	50	7	5
Flower Stall, Mrs. Hobbs	28	3	1
Waverley-Bondi, Mrs. Saunders ..	41	4	1
Fortune Stall	7	0	0
Jumble Stall, Mrs. Grant	23	5	0
Ice Cream Stall, Mrs. Grant	14	6	4
Refreshments, Mrs. Sherwood	69	5	6
Produce and Grocery, Miss Hines ..	22	15	4
Perfumery, Mrs. Kemp	38	13	3
Bags and Aprons, Miss McAlister ..	60	15	1
Handkerchiefs and Doyleys, Miss Crane	31	8	11
Cake Stall, Mrs. Hughes	40	12	3
Children's Stall, Madame Wolfcarius and Lady Mayoress	59	19	7
Men's Garments, Mrs. Patterson ..	72	8	0
Jam Stall, Mrs. Letham	22	6	0
Sweet Stall, Mrs. Stafford and Mrs. King	24	0	1
Doll Stall, Miss Steel and Miss Newman	79	18	0
Book Stall, Miss Davidson	12	8	0
Cool Drinks, Mrs. Robinson	14	4	8
Kiddies' Corner, Mrs. Harrison ..	3	9	3
Total	£1063	16	4

Queen Competition	£649	4	3
Sales from Great White Fair rooms before the Fair opened ..	438	15	8
Sales through "Grit"	89	8	0

Additional to those already mentioned in the list of stalls:

Women's Garments: Mrs. Batchelor, Mrs. Smith, Miss Hogg.
 Palmolive: The Misses Kline.
 Business Girls: Captain Miss Gilmour, Mrs. Emmett, Mrs. Gray, Mrs. Doust, Mrs. Metcalfe, Mrs. Courtenay Smith, The Misses Carrier, Beny, McKinnon.
 Towels: Mrs. Kline, Mrs. O'Reilly.
 Flowers: Mrs. Levy.
 Waverley-Bondi: Miss James, Mrs. Carter, Mrs. Hopkins, Mrs. Jones.
 Fortune: Miss Bethune, Mrs. B. E. Minns, Miss Brown.
 Ice Cream: Mrs. Matchett, Miss O'Neill, Miss W. Harbutt.

Produce: Miss Hynes, Mrs. Stephens, Mrs. Moverley, Miss Stephens.

Perfumery: Mrs. Henwood, Mrs. Kirkpatrick.

Bags and Aprons: Miss McAlister, Miss Delaney.

Handkerchiefs and Doyleys: Mrs. Wilcox.
 Cake Stall: Mrs. Beddie, Mrs. Stafford, Mrs. Munro.

Men's Garments: Mrs. Patterson and own Committee.

Jam Stall: Mrs. Louden, Mrs. Bradbury.

Children's: Mrs. Rowley, Miss Upward, Mrs. Booth.

Sweet Stall: Mrs. Bax, Mrs. Barker, Mrs. Stafford, Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. King.

Doll Stall: Mrs. Worthington.

Drinks: Mrs. Birrell, Misses Jeffries, Mrs. Straiton-Hutchison.

In addition to above: Mrs. Bray, Miss Bartlett, and four friends, Mrs. Crawford, Mrs. Noble and four friends, Mrs. Kerr, Mrs. Hall, Mrs. McLeod, Miss Chapman, Miss Manning, Mrs. Hellyer, Harbutt, Mrs. Barton, Miss Valentine, Mrs. O'Neill, Mrs. Wheeler, Mrs. Small, Mrs. Blair, Mrs. Butler, three Salvation officers at Refreshment and Alliance staff.

Special mention perhaps should be made of Mrs. Stafford, Snr., who made up over 120 yards of material.

Business Girls: Miss Gilmour and Miss Carrier.

THE QUEEN CROWNING.

Arrangements for this function having fallen through, Mrs. Vickery at just one week's notice undertook this great spectacular item. Mrs. Vickery and Mrs. Sherborne simply wrought a miracle. With one sadly interrupted rehearsal only it would seem impossible to arrange such a complicated pageant, but it was done; it was done wonderfully well.

The pupils of Miss O'Neill and Miss Gillan

helped both in entertaining the visitors to the Fair, and also in the crowning ceremony. They were charming, talented and well-trained children. The Queen's photo appeared in "Grit" last issue, and we need only add that she looked the part. Miss Beryl Miles is the Heir Apparent, and we expect to make her Queen next year. Mr. Charles Chandler, author of "Judas," and member of our Field Staff, was Lord High Executioner, and composed his speech:

LORD HIGH EXECUTIONER'S SPEECH.

Your majesty, hear my story in rhyme.
 I'll make the punishment fit the crime,
 And stop at nothing however grave
 Your Royal personage to save.
 The ladies of Court I'll bob and shingle,
 E'en though their warm salt tears should mingle

With their pleas to be set free
 From such a heartless man as me.
 I'll search your Kingdom up and down
 With my base and surly frown,
 And every scurvy knave I spy
 By this axe shall surely die.
 Should the ladies of your Court
 Fail to do the things they ought
 I'll loose their heads as soon as winking,
 I'm for action, not for thinking.
 Oh! noble Queen! Oh! Royal dame,
 All hail to your most worthy name.
 Let shouts of gladness fill the air,
 Three cheers for the Queen of the GREAT WHITE FAIR.

THE AFTERMATH.

We have some two or three hundred pounds' worth of excellent goods over from the Fair, and will find ways of selling them later. Money is still coming in, and we expect to reach £2400 without any additional expense.

It is proposed to keep one room at Wentworth Court and commence at once building up a bigger and better Fair. To all who helped—and they were legion—a very sincere thanks is due, and to all who ask what of the Great White Fair we simply say—Splendid!

Great White Fair, Sydney Town Hall, 4th, 5th, 6th December, 1924.

INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Banked on account of Sales at Town Hall	1063	16	4
Handed in by Mrs. Partridge from sales at White Fair rooms ..	438	15	8
From Mr. G. A. Bond for space at Town Hall	50	0	0
Sales of Programmes	1	0	10
Queen Competition—			
Bonds	313	8	2
Alliance	115	17	3
Rechabites	47	8	0
Nestles	38	16	9
Botany	33	14	10
Marcus Clark	33	0	0
"Grit"	20	16	4
Berlei	18	1	4
Business Girls	14	16	11
Winn's	9	12	6
Randwick	3	12	2
	649	4	3
Sales through "Grit"	89	8	0
To come from Sales	45	5	0
After Sales	64	8	2
To be refunded on account Hire Costumes	10	8	0
	£2408	6	3
Town Hall Hire	46	12	0
Postages	64	3	10
Balance, Hire Costumes	4	12	0
Peters' Ice Cream	17	5	0
To be paid for Chocolates	7	10	0
Advanced to Mrs. Grant for Refreshment Stall	5	0	0
Prizes, Side Shows	3	0	0
Blocks, Photos for Queen Competition	9	10	0
Extra Copies "Grit"	6	10	0
Salvation Army Band	10	0	0
Advertising	79	8	0
Printing (including Queen Competition)	66	16	3
Extra Help	70	11	6
Cartage, Freight, and Miscellaneous Expenses	9	5	11
Hire Tables, etc.	10	10	0
	410	14	6
Balance	£2001	11	9
	£2412	6	3

The Fate of Simpson—

(Continued from page 6.)

MOB FIGHT AT REDFERN.

According to the "Sydney Morning Herald," the violence which has characterised recent mob fights in the city and suburbs was again exhibited last Saturday night in an affray which occurred at Redfern. A man was stabbed and two others had to receive medical attention. The combatants, it is stated, fought with great ferocity, and kicked one another when they were felled. The frequency with which such violent outbursts are occurring has aroused comment in police circles. It is thought that the "push" elements of certain parts of the city are becoming more numerous and daring. In Saturday night's affray Albert Clarke, aged 24 years, of Kippax-street, City, was stabbed about the face and neck. Two other men who had been kicked almost into insensibility were also taken to hospital. The mob fight developed at the corner of Albion and Elizabeth streets, Redfern. It is said that the conflict had its beginnings in an argument between two men who were under the influence of drink. These men are alleged to have fought each other, and then, one by one, other men lounging in the neighborhood joined in. From time to time the various combatants were either thrown or knocked down, and when this happened they were savagely kicked. When the fight was broken up the participants were covered in blood.

DRUNKS ASSAULT CONSTABLE.

A disgraceful story of how a crowd witnessed a violent attack on a police constable by two drunks without making the slightest attempt to assist him comes from Clyde. It appears that the two men knocked the constable down in Factory-street, Clyde, near the Clyde workshops, and endeavored to kick him. He had to draw his baton to defend himself until another constable came to his assistance in a motor car. The two men

drove into Factory-street in a sulky, and, after alighting, went across to a standing motor car and, it is alleged, entered the vehicle. It appeared that they were trying to drive the car away, and Constable Doyle was summoned. He remonstrated with the men, and they then set upon him. He was attacked with considerable rage, and a crowd, which quickly collected and surrounded the combatants, made no effort to assist him, even when they saw him felled. While the fight was at its height a motorist drove to the police station, and returned immediately with Constable Copas. The two policemen even then had great difficulty in apprehending the men, one of them having to be thrown and handcuffed. The men were taken to the Granville Police Station and charged with assaulting the police and with having used indecent language.

THE QUEENSLAND POLLS.

As previously recorded in "Grit," local option polls will be taken in a number of districts in Queensland next year, and there is every indication that the Prohibition Party there will score a number of successes. According to a telegraphic message from Brisbane printed in the daily press last week, petitions have been presented to the Queensland Government by Messrs. Toombes and Watson, of the Queensland Prohibition League, requesting local Prohibition polls in twenty-six electoral districts.

The petitions bear 17,578 signatures, which, Mr. Toombes states, is well over the 10 per cent. required by the Act.

After the signatures have all been checked by the Electoral Department, provision will be made for the taking of polls in these districts next May.

There is a prospect of Prohibition being carried in several areas. The fight between the liquor trade and the Prohibitionists will be a very keen one.

Places that are most likely to go dry at the May poll are Ipswich, East Toowoomba, Toowoong, Bullimba and Sandgate.

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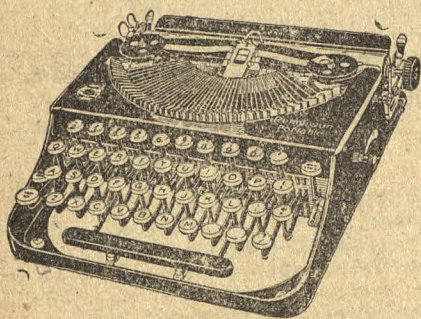
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Golden Spur	3d.	2/6	15/-
Hoboken (new)	1/6	15/-	
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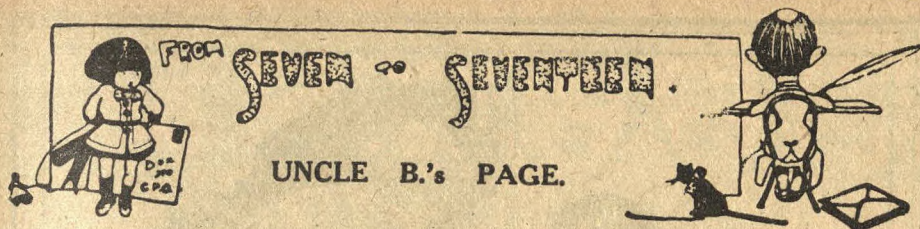
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Mistress—
Mary, your kitchen
is a picture!
However do you
get everything so
spotlessly clean
& bright?

Yes, ma'am, it do
look nice but it's
very little trouble
when you use
PEARSON'S
SAND SOAP



All boys and girls between the age of seven and seventeen are invited to join the family of Uncle B. Write only on one side of the paper. Send the date of your birthday. There is no fee to pay. If you do not write for three months you are a "scallywag." Address all letters to Uncle B., Box 390, G.P.O., Sydney.

A PROUD UNCLE.

"The stall" run by Uncle B. and Co., mostly the Co., was fine; it was a really truly success. Help came from every part of Australia and New Zealand. You will notice that the "Grit" orders, the "Grit" Queen and the "Grit" stall brought in £200; isn't that very fine? The cabbages were not so popular as the ice cream, and so I had some of them to take to the Children's Home. We used 50 gallons of ice cream. Fifty-seven Ne's, Ni's, honoraries and scallywags had an ice cream with me, and now I am "stony." But it was all lovely, and I did so wish I had an air 'bus and could have gathered up all my country friends and brought them to the Fair.

Thank you all, thank you big! Now what can I say about the coming Christmas? I do so want it to be happy, really happy, for you. You can't find real happiness in getting, but rather in giving. You can't be happy just in having your own way, so try and find it in straightening out the tangled way, giving sunshine to the dark way and joining in the lonely way of someone. Find your happiness in making others happy, and this can't be done by wishing, but only by real praying.—

UNCLE B.

OUR LETTER BAG.

"I ABOMINATE."

Belle Brown, "Broughton Park," Moss Vale, writes: It is a long time since I wrote to you; it must be over three months. The exams. (the Bursary and Q.C.) are over. I went up for both, and I thought the papers easy. I passed in the Intermediate Section of the Sunday school Scripture exam, gaining over 70 per cent. I went up for memory work and Scripture, and had 70 per cent. for both. My brother went up and passed with 70 per cent. in the Teacher Training Section. He also passed in Biblical knowledge. He was given a book for a prize, and the name is "Ton Keaith Falconer in Arabia." It is very nice. The weather has been wet here, but to-day is real hot (10th). My brother went to Goulburn on Thursday and Friday, and I helped Dad in the yard. I milk as fast as my brother, and Dad says I'm better than two brothers. A man asked

me yesterday if I liked feeding calves. It is dirty, but I like it. I put the cows over in a far paddock in the morning and in the evening nearer home. I love riding, but Nell (the horse) is getting old. We are milking 40 cows, and Dad has very bad hands. They are puffed—it is gout or some other hundred letter word. Well, I can't write much more. Dear Uncle, do you like cats? I like one in a house, but I abominate a dozen. A lady not far from us had fourteen.

(Dear Belle,—I did smile when I read that you abominated a dozen cats! Abominate is a fine word. I will use it when I think of the drink traffic. Cats—well, they are just cats, and I do not love them, but I just ignore them except when I catch them at the milk jug.—Uncle B.)

* * *

"BIG'UN."

Wesley W. Hall, "Swanbrook," Hall's Creek Road, Manilla, writes: I am 'afraid I am on the scallywag list by now, but please cross my name off, and I will try to do better in future. I go to Sunday School now, and like it very much. We had our anniversary on the 21st September. The boys call me "Big'un," because I am so big. One of my brothers has a job at driving a "Fordson" tractor on the shire. I have about 530 stamps in my collection now. A little while ago there was a fire here, and it burnt down three shops and destroyed £650 worth of goods. There was a blacksmith's shop and a skin-buyer's place.

(Dear Wesley.—So you are the "Big'un." Well, that is fine. With you behind me to give a push things won't go too badly, so please stick to me.—Uncle B.)

* * *

LITTLE BROWN HEN.

Gladys Thorn, North Dandalup, Western Australia, writes: We have got about forty chickens and about thirty hens and three roosters. I will send some money over from the Prohibition hen later on in time for the Great White Fair. We have a little brown hen that has laid an egg seventeen days in succession. She flies over the netting and has made a nest under a prickly bush near mother's line. We watch her closely each day to get the egg before the crows do. So there is no mistake about it. Don't you think that is a record, Uncle? Mother has kept brown leghorn hens for 16 years. We have a little Bilhorn organ. It has such a nice tune. Our roses flower nearly all the year round. Some of the names are Alexander, Hill Gray, Dorothy Perkins, George Dickson, Hoosier Beauty, Jubilee, Ophelia, and a White Maman Cochet. I must close now.

(Dear Gladys.—So you have a champion little brown hen; that is fine. I hope you chose her as the Prohibition hen. One of your "cousins" sent me 15 dozen eggs, and then sold them for me. Oh, I am proud of my Ne's and N's.—Uncle B.)

* * *
JUST BOYS.

Edna Baker, "Woniora," Tenterden-street, Botany, writes: I received your kind invitation to meet you at the "Uncle B." stall on Saturday, December 6, at the Great White Fair, and I will be very glad to meet you and my "Grit" cousins on that occasion. I am not quite decided whether I will have an ice cream or a cabbage; it all depends. It may be I'll have the larger of the two. Last night we had a concert to help buy tickets for our Botany Mascot Queen, and I was never at a more enjoyable entertainment. The artists were excellent, and having an appreciative audience were encored many times. We all hope our Queen will succeed in winning the Queen competition. She is a great favorite among the people of Botany and Mascot, and we are all working hard for her. When I last wrote to you, and I think I was somewhat younger on that occasion than I am now (no doubt I am as bad a correspondent as an honorary Ni as I was as a scallywag), you asked me to tell you more about my Sunday School work, and certainly I can't find a more interesting subject upon which to write. I have a class of boys, ages ranging from seven to eleven in the morning school, about fifteen in all. They are very interesting scholars, and revel in stories or battles fought in the stories of the Old Testament. They are especially fond of the story of David's life and adventures. In the afternoon I have a class of babies, with an attendance of about 25, both boys and girls. Although they may be interested in the lessons I give them, a Sunday never passes without some small scholar informing me in the middle of the lesson that "she has new socks on," or "this is a new hat," and latterly I've heard that one or more have seen "Father Xmas" in town, and are getting "sleeping dolls" or "trains, cars, boats, etc." for Xmas. Every second Sunday in the month we have a children's service, and then my scholars excel in showing what they can do. A few months back one service Sunday, one young gentleman, under my supervision, calmly knocked every boy's hat (which was placed on the book-rest in front of them) on to the floor, and then chuckled delightedly. Neither I nor the minister conducting the service saw anything to laugh at, but "boys will be boys." Well, Uncle B., unless I want the whole of "Grit's" children page swallowed up with my epistle I had better close off. Once again thanking you for your kind invitation, and wishing the Great White Fair every success, and my "Grit" cousins a happy time on that occasion.

(Dear Edna,—Your letter is most interesting. Please write again soon. You know
(Continued on next page.)

a boy is just made up of one part mischief and two parts appetite, and he remains like that until those interested in him add the "bit more" that makes him the most wonderful creature on earth.—Uncle B.).

* * *

A HELPER.

Jim Brown, Midlands, Goolagong Road, Grenfell, writes: Fred and I have sold most of the tickets you sent us. I have made a necklace of quondong stones and dyed them red and green. Quondongs are wild fruit something like an apricot in size, but very different in flavor. The stones are round, and make good marbles or beads. I drilled the holes through the stones with the drill belonging to my fretsaw set. I did not go to school to-day, but stopped and helped Dad, who is cutting oaten hay. The recent rains have made the oats rusty. The rust is just like that on a piece of old iron, except that it is blown off or knocked off in fine powder. The binder is as red as if it had been dipped in paint. The chaffcutter is coming here to-morrow. It has been hot here to-day, and we were glad to go for a swim this afternoon. I will soon be sending my parcel for the Great White Fair.

(Dear Jim,—You are among my big company of helpers—a big, thank you. How I wish you had been at the Fair. It was great, and everyone said I was looking very pleased, because of all my wonderful Ne's and Ni's, and all they did to make "the stall" a success.—Uncle B.).

* * *

A BUSY TIME.

Elsie Butters, Burrawang, Shirley-street, Roseville, writes: I have been away to Blackheath for a holiday. We arrived there on Thursday afternoon, and the next day we went out to one of the sights, and every other day I went out too. Our anniversary was on Sunday, and I was sick for it. I went for the exam. and got a prize. On Saturday I am going to a launch picnic for the C.E. I went to a concert on Wednesday, and I am going to another next Wednesday. I don't think I can think of any more.

(Dear Elsie,—You are certainly having a busy time, and I expect you will now be planning your Christmas holidays. All I can say, watch out the mosquitoes don't get you altogether.—Uncle B.).

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Doctor: "Your wife suffers from insomnia? Are there any serious consequences?"

Visitor: "Yes. When I come home late she is always awake."

DIFFICULT EITHER WAY.

"Rather sudden, isn't it? I don't see how a girl can marry a man she's known only a fortnight."

"I don't know how she can marry one she's known longer."

RELIABLE SIGN.

He: "Do you believe in signs and omens?"

She: "Yes."

He: "Last night I dreamed you loved me. What does that mean?"

She: "That you were dreaming."

ALMOST.

The secretary of the bar association was very busy and very cross one afternoon, when his telephone rang.

"Well, what is it?" he snapped.

"Is this the City Gas Works?" asked a woman's soft voice.

"No, madam," roared the secretary. "This is the Bar Association of the City of Louisville."

"Ah," came from the lady's end in the sweetest of tones, "I didn't miss it so far, after all, did I?"

ASK DAD, HE KNOWS.

Tommy: "Is that a lion or lioness, papa?"

Father: "Which one, dear?"

Tommy: "The one with its face scratched, and the hair off its head."

Father (with a sigh): "That must be the lion."

THE BETTER CATCH.

An Idaho man was fishing in Lake Crescent recently. He caught a big northern pike; the biggest he had ever landed in his long and busy life. He was elated. He was crazed with joy, and he telegraphed his wife: "I've got one; weighs seven pounds, and it is a beauty."

The following was the answer he got: "So have I; weighs ten pounds. Not a beauty—looks like you. Come home."

THE SALAD'S BATH.

In the cook's absence the young mistress of the house undertook, with the help of an inexperienced waitress, to get the Sunday luncheon. The flurried maid, who had been struggling in the kitchen with a coffee machine which refused to work, confessed that she had forgotten to wash the lettuce.

"Well, never mind, Marie," said the considerate mistress. "Go on with the coffee and I'll do it. Where do you keep the soap?"

FULLY EQUIPPED.

"I never saw but one man," said Uncle Bill Bottletop, "that I thought had a chance foolin' with bootleg liquor. He was a sword-swallower and his wife was a snake-charmer."

WANTED THEM NEW.

Old Lady: "I'd like to get a pair of shoes, young man."

Shopman: "Yes, ma'am. Want something for everyday wear?"

Old Lady: "Yes; and I want them good and stout."

Shopman: "Well, here is a good shoe—an extra strong shoe. It has been worn a great deal this winter—"

Old Lady (interrupting): "Look here, young man, I don't want a shoe that has been worn this winter, or any other winter; I want a new pair."

RAW! RAW! RAW!

The rookie had lately joined a crack cavalry outfit, and after several imitations of the Prince of Wales had lost some of his exuberance. He was standing on the sunny side of the canteen looking like the spirit of melancholy when the genial chaplain approached.

"What's the matter, my boy?" asked the chaplain. "Homesick?"

"Oh, a little, I guess," was the answer. "You see, I'm just a raw recruit."

"Cheer up, you'll be all right. But you shouldn't say 'raw recruit.' The 'raw' is superfluous."

The rookie rubbed his anatomy reflectively and then replied with sad emphasis:

"Not when you join the cavalry it ain't."

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DAILY INSPIRATION.

By FAIRELIE THORNTON.

SUNDAY.

"I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."

Christmas comes again with gladness,
Making joy within men's hearts,
Banishing all thoughts of sadness,
Wiping tears and healing smarts.

Christmas comes—we must not sorrow
Over friends no longer near.
They are singing with the angels
While we raise our voices here.

Jesus came to chase death's shadows
And to give us life indeed.
Life is theirs more full, more perfect,
And our tears they do not need.

Christmas comes to bring us gladness,
And to chase all grief away;
Christmas comes to banish sadness—
Let us then rejoice to-day.

MONDAY.

We turn our thoughts this week to the cradle in the manger. Why did Jesus come as a little child? He might have come as a grown man. Was it not to teach us that we must become as little children ere we can enter His kingdom? Pride must be laid aside—the pride of reason, the pride of knowledge, the pride of self-sufficiency, the pride of self-righteousness, and we must submit to own our ignorance, our helplessness, our sinfulness, before we are adopted into His family and receive the new robe of His righteousness. When we are thus content to be stripped of all else and come as little children to a father, trusting implicitly in His Word, then will He receive us as His children. We shall always be children, little children, to Him. He came in lowly guise to teach us humility. He became like unto us in all but our sinfulness that we might grow up into Him in all things.

TUESDAY.

"Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you."

Down the distant ages,
Like the breeze of eve,
Comes a dying echo—
"Peace, My peace, I leave,
Not as this world giveth,
I this peace now give.
All who take may have it,
All who will, receive.

"Not by strife and bloodshed,
Not by millions killed,
Will the hate and malice
In men's hearts be stilled.
When Love reigns triumphant
Strife and war shall cease;
Righteousness prevailing
Brings in lasting peace."

WEDNESDAY.

"Peace on earth, goodwill to man."

During the war there was a cessation of hostilities on Christmas Day by common consent, and for once man treated his enemy, who had never done him a personal wrong, as a friend. Surely this is the spirit in which the Christ who "died for ALL" intended us to live. God loves our enemies as much as He loves us. It would be well for us sometimes to remember that God loves the black man, the yellow man, the brown man as much as He loves the white. If we could only live all the year round in the kindly spirit which prevails at Christmas time what a different world this would

be. There would be no more strikes, no more fighting for one's rights. "Peace on earth, Jesus came to bring; peace with God through His blood, and peace which should follow between man and his brother man." "By this shall all men know that ye are My disciples, if ye have love one to another." Love always brings peace. "Blessed are the peace-makers, for they shall be called the children of God."

THURSDAY.

"Great is the mystery of godliness, God was manifest in the flesh."—1 Tim., 3, 16.

Christmas, happy Christmas,
We lift our eyes above,
To the Father who was manifest
In flesh to show His love.
We hail with glad rejoicing
The day of Jesu's birth;
The day when He, to die for man,
Came down from heaven to earth.

FRIDAY.

"Then they cried unto the Lord in their trouble, and He saved them out of their distresses."—Ps., 107, 6.

Has not that been your experience, my friend, times out of number? Have you ever cried, and cried in vain? Has He not always delivered you some time, somehow? Not perhaps always just at the moment, nor in the way you expected; but you are alive to-day none the worse for those distresses which came upon you to test your faith, or as the result of your own folly or mistake. "Fools because of their transgression and because of their iniquity are afflicted, their soul abhorreth all manner of meat, and they draw nigh unto the gates of death. Then they cry unto the Lord in their trouble, and He saveth them out of their distresses." How many a time have you been near to the gates of death, sometimes through your own carelessness, and you have cried to the God of life who has raised you up again to serve Him? Perhaps you forgot the Giver in the gift of restored health, and have not kept the vows you made on that sick bed. Remember Him while the sun shines upon your path ere the evil days come when you will say, "I have no pleasure in them." "Again they are finished and brought low through oppression, affliction, and sorrow." "Then they cry unto the Lord in their trouble, and He saveth them out of their distresses." "Oh, that men would praise the Lord for His goodness and His wonderful works to the children of men!"

SATURDAY.

Are you feeling sad and lonely,
Thinking that no being cares?
Oh, then just remember only
Jesus all your burden shares.

All the weary, broken-hearted
Came to Him, nor came in vain.
Never one unblessed departed,
Not one failed His ear to gain.

And just now He stands beside you,
Saying, "I am with you still.
Nought but good can e'er betide you,
Trust My love, and fear no ill."

Since thy Husband is thy Maker,
Surely thou canst nothing want.
Of His wealth thou art partaker,
No good thing but He will grant.

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PROHIBITION AS CITIZENS OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON SEE IT.

BEFORE AND AFTER PROHIBITION.

(By JUDGE AUSTIN E. GRIFFITHS, Seattle.)

Notwithstanding all that is said about the prevalence of drinking in spite of the law of the land, it is my opinion, based upon considerable observation prior to and since the law took effect, that very much of the opposition is exaggeration and propaganda. Before the law went into operation, one saw drunken people in the saloons and out of the saloons, on the street, and in public places; persons under the influence of liquor at public banquets and other gatherings. It is seldom that one sees visible signs of drunkenness now.

The liquor interests are not yet back into politics. When I was city councilman of Seattle, the saloon was a potent factor in politics and in the election of councilmen. Later, when I was chief of police of this city the same was clearly and lamentably apparent. We have gotten rid of that evil.

In the realm of business, especially international business, no wet country can, in the long run, successfully compete with a dry country. If this country remains dry, as it will, our salesmen abroad will be dry and our workmen at home will be dry, and the result will be better than the result from the wet workmen and the wet salesmen of our competitors in the marts of the world. The people of Great Britain and of Canada—especially the business men—will sense that fact before long. Then, as is their way, when they do make up their mind to act they will act quickly. We have only to stand our ground in this country to bring our neighbors to our own standard.

In other words, business interests in other countries will vote to put their country on the dry list the same as, finally, the business interests of this country voted alongside of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

I remember an incident which will emphasize this point: Several days before the state of Washington voted for the dry law, two managers of big sawmills were in my office. I asked them how they were going to cast their ballots the following Tuesday. Both surprised me by saying that they were going to vote dry. Neither one, I presume, had ever listened to a temperance talk, and each was a user of liquor. The reason these business men gave was that they wanted sober workmen at their sawmills Monday morning—not half drunken men, Monday morning, or, in some cases, Tuesday or the Wednesday following. They also said they objected to having the wages of their men corralled over Sunday.

This reminds me of one great permanent outstanding benefit of Prohibition. The women have the wages and salary of the men, with which to buy necessities and comforts. In other days, a large part of

this money went over the saloon bar. I once heard some workmen of this city discussing the effect of our dry law. They concurred in saying it was a good thing so far as they were concerned, first, because it saved their money for their families; second (as they put it), the employer could not "boss them around" and make chattels of them any more because they were now sober and able to think for themselves.

There is another aspect of the present situation. If drinking, or drunkenness, were as common to-day as formerly, or if it were as common as exaggeration seeks to make it, people would not be safe on the roads or streets of the country because of the use of the automobile. If men were free to imbibe as they used to be life would be worth scarcely a farthing.

I am well aware, of course, of the agitation for the restoration of the use of beer and light wines. I do not see anything to be gained by such a modification of the law. We would then have a group of beer guzzlers and wine bibbers, the same as before. Their appetites would increase and they would want stronger drink, the same as before. They would go to excess in the use of these permitted drinks, the same as before. We would have largely the same difficulty with respect to law enforcement then, as now. It would be just as necessary as it is now to maintain limitations imposed by law and, in my judgment, just as difficult as it is now to enforce the whole law. By modifying the present law we simply start around in another circle. The good people of the country would begin to agitate for complete Prohibition, and that agitation would never stop until it was once more put into a statute. As I see it, the main thing is for the people to stand firm and insist upon the enforcement of the law, and not to lose patience, or be discouraged, because of more or less lax enforcement. Law enforcement will be less needed and will be better done as the years go by, and as the present generation of toppers passes off.

Finally, in answer to the argument, so-called, for the use of light wines and beer, I may add several Spanish proverbs. Proverbs are supposed to embody the wisdom of a country. If the use of light wines in Latin countries is so harmless, why the following proverbs?

"Drinking water neither makes a man sick, nor in debt, nor his wife a widow."

"Wine comforts the heart with its warmth and destroys the brain by drying it."

"Wine is the tomb of the memory."

"Wine has two defects; if you add water to it you ruin it; if you do not add water it ruins you."—"Union Signal."

Explaining Alleged Increase of Insane Alcoholics.

That the alleged increase of alcoholic cases in the insane hospitals is due to the fact that other institutions for the cure of delirium tremens cases have been closed is the encouraging information given out in the last report from the largest insane hospital in Illinois by the managing officer, Dr. W. A. Stoker, who is credited with these facts given in a communication to the President of the Illinois W.C.T.U., Miss Helen Hood, is head of the largest of Illinois's nine hospitals for the insane—the Kankakee State Hospital at Kankakee, Ill. Dr. Stoker's letter said: "In regard to the seeming increase of insanity, I will say that there has been a seeming increase in the number of people committed to the State institutions during the last three years, but I would hardly say it was on account of Prohibition. The big increase has been in alcoholics who are being sent to State institutions at present, while before Prohibition they were sent to the Bridewell in Chicago or the Washingtonian Home or the different institutions for the cure of the drink habit, most of which closed shortly after Prohibition went into effect, as did the Washingtonian Home and the hospital at the Bridewell. The majority of the alcoholics, in my opinion, should not be sent to the insane hospitals, as most are sobered up by the time they reach us, and the few who are still hallucinating soon clear up. And, as I said before, I do not believe that they are properly sent or should be classified as insane, but should be sent to the workhouse or to the city jail."

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PROHIBITION COMPETITIONS.

The Queensland Prohibition League is offering £20 in prizes for campaign competitions. Prizes of £3 and £1 are offered for the best Prohibition slogans. Prizes of £2 and £1 are offered for the best Prohibition songs set to a popular tune, and similar prizes are offered for a campaign chorus, giving the method of voting, i.e., "Put your cross in the top square."

A prize of £5 (donated by the Victorian Anti-Liquor League) is offered for the best drawing or cartoon for campaign purposes, and prizes of £3 and £2 for a drawing showing "how to vote" and utilising the emblem of the League, i.e., the two children in the map of Queensland.

All entries must be in by February 15. Further particulars can be obtained from Arthur Toombes, State Superintendent, Temperance Hall, Brisbane.



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ENGLISH PRISON WARDEN BELIEVES IN PROHIBITION.

Speaking recently in Newcastle (England) Mr. H. Pickering, Governor of Newcastle Prison, declared: "You will always find me on a temperance platform because of the sights I see and the things I hear."

"The White Ribbon," official organ of the British Women's Temperance Association,

reports Mr. Pickering as prophesying that local option would become an accomplished fact there and that this would lead to Prohibition. "Have no mercy," he urged, "with the drink trade. Hit hard and kill it. You will not hurt anybody who is worth hurting, and you will save your fellowmen and smash the worst trade that was ever started in this country."

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